

sules . . . containing the active principles of gum benzoin and of the essential oil of gurjun." From this who can tell what the stuff contains and in what amounts? Is there a pathologist in the country who could be found to endorse the statement that it is a "perfect genito-urinary disinfectant"? Gentlemen of the Trustees, are the few dirty dollars which the Association receives for this advertisement an equivalent for the loss of dignity, honor and prestige which results from the spectacle of the great American Medical Association advertising and promoting the use of such nostrums?

The Committee on Scientific Program for the next meeting of the State Society at Riverside April 18th to 20th, has pretty well blocked out the work. The three mornings of the session will be devoted to general symposiums. One morning will be given up to subjects of a general sanitary nature, as the report of the Committee on Tuberculosis with correlated papers, Medical Education and Legislation, the milk question, etc. Another morning will be given to a discussion of the Gallbladder and Ducts, divided into four general divisions; Diagnosis, Pathology, Medical Treatment and Surgical Treatment. The third morning will be occupied by a symposium on Typhoid Fever, the subject being divided as follows: Etiology and Epidemiology; Paratyphoid; Surgery, (a) Immediate, and (b) Secondary; Genito-Urinary Complications; Treatment. Some of the papers and opening discussions on these subjects will be provided for by the Committee, but it is desired to have a few additional papers. The Committee therefore requests that *members who desire to present papers on any of the subjects covered in these symposiums will kindly send in their names and the titles of their prospective papers, at once.* They must be received *not later than February 1st* in order to be considered, for otherwise the program will be filled by the Committee. Two of the afternoons will be devoted to papers on the various special subjects, Surgery, Medicine, Obstetrics, Gynecology, Genito-Urinary Diseases, Pediatrics, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Diseases, Dermatology, etc. A few papers will be asked for by the Committee, but it is expected that most of them will be volunteered. All members desiring or intending to present papers are requested to *send in their names and the titles of their papers at once, or the program will be filled.* This information should reach the Committee not later than February 1st. It is announced that the program will be more limited in the number of papers than in previous years, so that all may be presented, and each author will be required to state the amount of time his paper will take (which may not exceed twenty minutes), and will be strictly held to that time limit. From present indications, the Riverside meeting will be one of the

best in the history of the Society and it certainly promises to be one which those who attend will long remember.

The *British Medical Journal* with its issue for November 12th, publishes a supplement illustrating the full Japanese soldier's outfit; **THE PITY OF IT ALL.** it also has a long and very interesting editorial on the subject. We cannot refrain from extracting some sentences from this editorial comment. "It is difficult to know whether to admire most the thoroughness or the ingenuity with which the health and comfort of the men serving in a country which is in summer very hot and in winter very cold have been considered." "But the excellence of the clothing served out and its perfect adaption to the climatic conditions to be encountered is only one instance of the wise forethought displayed by those who are responsible for the health of the Japanese soldier in war and for his care when wounded." In reading the description of the outfit one is struck with the emphasis placed upon "the excellent quality of the material used." And there is the pity of it! That one should be *surprised* because the very best material is used in fabricating the clothing for the common soldier—the man at the front. Contrast the downright honesty of the Japanese commissariat, the fine wool blankets combining warmth with lightness; the lamb's wool toe socks for extreme cold weather; the beautifully woven underwear; the rice and other foodstuffs, of which only the best is accepted: compare these with our own embalmed beef, our actually rotten and rotting tinned pork and beans, our poor shoddy cloth, our glove scandal, the thousand and one instances of "graft, graft, graft." The existence of surprise is indicative of a widespread demoralization that is appalling in its tragic significance. So accustomed are we to corruption that simple honesty excites our surprise; graft we look upon as naturally to be expected.

Some months ago the JOURNAL published an editorial with this caption. It referred to a manufacturing concern that put out a preparation and published a lieing formula. **NASTY FRAUD.** At first they said it contained "lithium methaminate", and when we found that this was simply an outrageous insult to one's intelligence, that there is no such chemical, we mentioned the fact editorially and expressed our views on the standing of a concern that would do such a thing. The advertisement with the absurd "formula" was appearing in the *Journal of the A. M. A.* also, and when this matter came out the "formula" was dropped; but the *Journal* continued to print the advertisement. For some months the "ad" was run without any formula, but in a recent issue of the *Journal* we note that a new "formula" has made its appearance. This time the same identical name is used for the stuff